

**DESOTO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**JESSIE MEDLIN, PRESIDENT 2002 PRESIDING**

**March 6, 2002**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The March 6, 2002, meeting of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Supervisor Jessie Medlin, Board President.

Chief Deputy Charlie Brown of the DeSoto County Sheriff’s Department was present and did open the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors meeting in a regular session to hear any and all business to come before the Board. The following were present:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin-----District 1  
Supervisor Eugene C. Thach-----District 2  
Supervisor Gerald Clifton-----District 3  
Supervisor John Caldwell-----District 4  
Supervisor Tommy Lewis-----District 5  
W. E. Sluggo Davis-----Chancery Clerk  
Sheriff James Albert Riley-----Sheriff  
David Armstrong-----County Administrator  
Bill Austin-----Board Attorney

**B. INVOCATION**

Supervisor John Caldwell presented the invocation.

**C. PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Planning Commission brought several items before the Board of Supervisors as evidenced by the portion of the minutes submitted by the Planning Commission. **\*\*See Exhibit C\*\***

**D. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY BOARD MINUTES**

The official minutes of the Board of Supervisors were read for the month of February 2002, pursuant to Section 19-3-27 of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated. Supervisor Tommy Lewis made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to accept the minutes of the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Commission for February 2002. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin	NO
Supervisor Eugene Thach	YES
Supervisor Gerald Clifton	YES
Supervisor John Caldwell	YES
Supervisor Tommy Lewis	YES

**E. OLD BUISINESS**

**1. Safety Officers Report**

Tim Curtis, County Safety Officer, appeared before the Board of Supervisors to give an update on the progress for the Justice Court facility for the safety recommendations. Mr. Curtis said the Buildings and Grounds Director Kenny Evans had installed the locks

## ITEM E.1, CONTINUED,

on the doors to the main hallway between the office and Courtroom. Mr. Curtis said the metal detector move out of the Courtroom into the main lobby area is not feasible at this time due to having to hire an additional employee to maintain the metal detector. Mr. Curtis said the recommendation for additional security personnel when court is in session to handle the metal detector is not feasible at this time. Mr. Curtis said Kenny Evans was looking into the security camera surveillance system, and the need for front and back surveillance is needed and would like for this to be done on a 24 hour surveillance. Mr. Curtis said the testing on the alarm system response time had been done. Mr. Curtis said Kenny Evans had done the reinforcement on the holding cell area, but the counter area in the office was not feasible to do in this budget year, due to the modifications that are planned by the Data Processing Department for the Justice Court data systems.

Supervisor John Caldwell said this list was what he wanted brought before the Board that identifies what is being done once the recommendations were made by the Safety Officers.

County Administrator David Armstrong asked if they have decided what type of barricades need to be installed at Justice Court on the front of the building to keep traffic from driving through the windows. Mr. Armstrong suggested talking with the Road Manager Russell Dorris and Jim Green, Safety Officer for Central Maintenance, about the appropriate type barriers needed. Tim Curtis said a planter would be appropriate for this location.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to accept the Safety Officers Report as a part of the Board minutes. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **\*\*See Exhibit E.1\*\***

Tim Curtis said he had spoken with the Sheriff's Department regarding the assignment of the Sheriff's personnel to light duty work to get off of the workers compensation insurance claims. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked how the claims are running? Tim Curtis said there were only two claims in the month of February. Mr. Armstrong said that Tim Curtis and Jim Green are both doing a good job for the County. Supervisor Eugene Thach asked the Road Manager Russell Dorris to try to assign the Central Maintenance personnel to light duty work when they are hurt. Supervisor Tommy Lewis said he recommends cross training in areas to allow for light duty work to be done by personnel to keep off of the workers compensation claims.

## 2. Central Maintenance – Request to Purchase Additional Equipment

County Road Manager Russell Dorris said he had verified his budget funds were appropriate to purchase two more tractors and mowers. Russell Dorris said he wanted to purchase one additional tractor with boom mower and one additional tractor with a deck mower.

Director of Purchasing Jeannine Ruby said the recent bid quotes were done specifying one or more quantity and this would allow her to purchase the two additional tractors and mowers.

Supervisor Gerald Clifton made the motion and Supervisor Tommy Lewis seconded the motion to approve the Purchasing Department to purchase one additional tractor with a boom mower and one additional tractor with a deck mower for the Central Maintenance Department. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**CONTINUED,**

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Jail Inspection**

The Board does hereby find that, pursuant to Section 19-5-1 of the Mississippi Code Annotated, periodic examinations into the state and condition of the DeSoto County Jail, in regards to its safety, sufficiency and accommodation of the prisoners is required. Pursuant to Section 19-5-1, the Board of Supervisors, or a competent person authorized by the Board of Supervisors, shall examine the jail for said compliance. The DeSoto County Board of Supervisors has a policy of attempting to inspect the DeSoto County Jail on a monthly basis and a requirement that the DeSoto County Jail be inspected as often as is mandated by Mississippi statute, State and/or Federal law. By direction of the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors, the following persons were directed pursuant to Section 19-5-1 to perform the required examination into the state and condition of the jail and to report back to the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors:

Supervisor John Caldwell  
Supervisor Gerald Clifton

The DeSoto County Board of Supervisors does hereby find that the above named committee has reported back to the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors. That both of them have examined the DeSoto County Jail regarding its state and condition in regard to its safety, sufficiency and accommodation of the prisoners, and do find the jail to be in compliance and requiring no further action at this time.

Supervisor Gerald Clifton made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the observed condition of the jail and to state there was no overcrowding of the Jail, and do find the Jail to be in compliance and requiring no further action at this time. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**2. Hwy 301 – Corp of Engineers Project at Arkabutla Lake**

Supervisor John Caldwell said there were trucks traveling on the County portion of Hwy 301 road to Arkabutla Lake that were exceeding the weight limit of the road. Supervisor Caldwell said the road has a weight limit of 15,000 lbs. Supervisor Caldwell said they were notified that this road is not a truck route and they have to come in through Tate County since it is a State road. Supervisor Caldwell said this is informational only for the Board.

**3. DHS Building – Approval of Change Order**

Director of Operations & Maintenance Jim Bearden appeared before the Board of Supervisors regarding a change order required for the new DHS building site. Jim Bearden said they were clearing the site to the east end of the building and they cut into an underground spring. Jim Bearden said he had budgeted \$12,000 for removing the lines. Jim Bearden said they will have to take out 1800 yards of dirt, cut the ditch from Old Hwy 51 to the back of the new building to redirect the spring water to the creek, and then put in new dirt. This cost would run \$17,500. Jim Bearden said he had looked about doing a French drain and the cost would be \$3,000 extra, but he was told that this really never works and there is constant work that would have to be done to the drain line. Jim Bearden said to take a backhoe and cut a ditch with a three to one slope. This would be an open ditch that would run 350 ft to the natural creek. Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if they have a spring and they dig the ditch, where would the spring come from to get to the ditch. Jim Bearden said they would try to intercept the spring to the ditch.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Gerald Clifton seconded the motion to approve the change order for the building site of the DHS building with a limit not to exceed \$20,000 for the change order. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**ITEM F.3, CONTINUED,**

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked where they plan to put the dirt being removed. Jim Bearden said they would take the dirt to the hill where they would get the dry dirt.

#### **4. Bids Under Advisement – Food Supplies Jail**

Director of Purchasing Jeannine Ruby appeared before the Board of Supervisors to present the bids received for the food supplies for the jail. Ms. Ruby said they received only one bid on time and recommended taking this bid from Institutional Distributors. Ms. Ruby said they are the current supplier for the food supplies at the jail.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to accept the recommendation of the Purchasing Director to award the bid for Food Supplies for the Jail to Institutional Distributors. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. **\*\*See Exhibit F.4\*\***

#### **5. Centralized Dispatch**

County Administrator David Armstrong said there was a vacancy on the Centralized Dispatch Board, due to the absence of Tim Kelly. Mr. Armstrong said Tim Curtis had expressed a desire to be appointed by the Board to serve on this Board. Supervisor Eugene Thach made the motion and Supervisor John Caldwell seconded the motion to approve the appointment, at the recommendation of the County Administrator, of Tim Curtis to the Centralized Dispatch Board to fill the unexpired term of Tim Kelly. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

### **G. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The executive session portions of these minutes are recorded under the portion of the minutes called “Executive Session.”

### **H. OTHER ISSUES**

#### **1. Jail Inmate Cost for Cities**

Supervisor Eugene Thach said he had spoken with Mayor of Southaven Greg Davis and they pay \$10.00 a day for inmates at this time. They have sent in a check in the amount of \$5,000 for their City prisoners being held at the County jail.

County Administrator David Armstrong said he had notified the other Mayors of the pending cost for their City prisoners being held at the County jail.

#### **2. Camp Currier**

County Administrator David Armstrong said he had received a call asking if the County could do any work to the Camp Currier Boy Scout Camp grounds. Board Attorney Bill Austin said the County could not take any road equipment in and do any work. Mr. Austin said the work that was done by the National Guard on Camp Currier was considered secondary training for the National Guard, but the County can do nothing.

Supervisor Tommy Lewis asked if the Board had anyone they could recommend to do this for Camp Currier. No motions were made on this item.

#### **3. Civic Center**

County Administrator David Armstrong said he had received the Interlocal Agreement with the Civic Center and needs authorization for the Board President to sign the agreement. Mr. Armstrong said the interest rate had been changed from 5% to 4.3%,

### **ITEM H.3, CONTINUED,**

which is about the same rate the County pays. Mr. Armstrong said the current balance

3/06/02

owed by the Civic Center is \$5,744,614 and this has a two year pay back provision.

Supervisor Jessie Medlin asked if any of the \$600,000 that is set aside for the Civic Center has been calculated in. Mr. Armstrong said the Civic Center has not requested any of this money at this time, but when they do it would be added to the \$5,744,614 amount. Supervisor John Caldwell asked if everything the County loans them would be paid back, since we have this set up in the tourism based account. Mr. Armstrong said yes.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Eugene Thach seconded the motion to authorize the Board President to sign the Interlocal Agreement between the County and the Civic Center. The motion passed by a vote as follows:

Supervisor Jessie Medlin	YES
Supervisor Eugene Thach	YES
Supervisor Gerald Clifton	ABSENT
Supervisor John Caldwell	YES
Supervisor Tommy Lewis	YES

**\*\*See Exhibit H.3\*\***

**4. Workers Compensation**

Supervisor Jessie Medlin said the volunteers that work with the Sheriff’s Department had been told that the County did not cover them under the Workers Compensation. County Administrator David Armstrong said they are covered under our Workers Compensation policy but not under the County’s Health and Medical Insurance. Board Attorney Bill Austin said this issue regarding volunteers has been addressed by the volunteers that work in the Fire Departments being Workers Compensation only.

Mr. Armstrong said he would talk with the Sheriff’s Department regarding the type of insurance coverage that the volunteers have. No motions were made on this item.

**5. Vacation – Sick Days**

Chancery Clerk Sluggo Davis asked if someone wanted to give up vacation days and sick days to someone, could this be done? County Administrator David Armstrong said that you could only give ½ of your sick time in a calendar year. No motions were made on this item.

Supervisor John Caldwell made the motion and Supervisor Jessie Medlin seconded the motion, to recess the meeting until March 18, 2002 at 9:00 am. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

THIS the 6<sup>TH</sup>. day of March 2002, these minutes have been read and approved by the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessie Medlin, President  
DeSoto County Board of Supervisors